



St. John Lutheran Church and School
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
Reverend Jeff Caithamer
revcaithamer - at - stjoh-lcms.org
School Principal: Tim Gabbert

Divine Service II

**stand as you are able*

OPENING HYMN 914 *Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten*

- 1 Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten Radiance of the Father's face,
Word made flesh, who lived among us Full of truth and full of grace,
Shine upon our human darkness; Pierce the night that shrouds our race.
- 2 Word eternal, through Your being God created all we see,
When the empty spaces echoed With the Father's "Let there be..."
Light and life burst from the glorious Power of Your majesty!
- 3 Still Your brooding Spirit hovers Over chaos dark and deep,
Calling out with invitation: "Rise, awaken from your sleep;
Christ the Lord will shine upon you And from death your soul shall keep."
- 4 Come, Lord Jesus, by Your Spirit In our hearts Your work begin,
Bring the healing restoration Of Your image lost by sin;
From Your fullness all receiving Grace on grace, new life within!

***INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

*KYRIE

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE *This is the Feast*

P This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia.

C Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the

people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia.

*SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

(The Collect of the Day is spoken.)

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 1:1-5

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING: Romans 6:1-11

¹ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*ALLELUIA AND VERSE

C Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter. (4-11)

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴ John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY 406 *To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord*

1 To Jordan came the Christ, our Lord, To do His Father's pleasure;
Baptized by John, the Father's Word Was given us to treasure.
This heav'nly washing now shall be A cleansing from transgression
And by His blood and agony Release from death's oppression.
A new life now awaits us.

2 O hear and mark the message well, For God Himself has spoken.
Let faith, not doubt, among us dwell And so receive this token.
Our Lord here with His Word endows Pure water, freely flowing.
God's Holy Spirit here avows Our kinship while bestowing
The Baptism of His blessing.

3 These truths on Jordan's banks were shown By mighty word and wonder.
The Father's voice from heav'n came down, Which we do well to ponder:
"This man is My beloved Son, In whom My heart has pleasure.
Him you must hear, and Him alone, And trust in fullest measure
The word that He has spoken."

4 There stood the Son of God in love, His grace to us extending;
The Holy Spirit like a dove Upon the scene descending;
The triune God assuring us, With promises compelling,
That in our Baptism He will thus Among us find a dwelling
To comfort and sustain us.

5 To His disciples spoke the Lord, "Go out to ev'ry nation,
And bring to them the living Word And this My invitation:
Let ev'ryone abandon sin And come in true contrition
To be baptized and thereby win Full pardon and remission
And heav'nly bliss inherit."

6 But woe to those who case aside This grace so freely given;
They shall in sin and shame abide And to despair be driven.
For born in sin, their works must fail, Their striving saves them never;
Their pious acts do not avail, And they are lost forever,
Eternal death their portion.

7 All that the mortal eye beholds Is water as we pour it.
Before the eye of faith unfolds The pow'r of Jesus' merit.
For here it sees the crimson flood To all our ills bring healing;
The wonders of His precious blood The love of God revealing,
Assuring His own pardon.

SERMON *"All About the Water"* Mark 1:4-11

*APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He

descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***LORD'S PRAYER**

***COLLECT**

P Let us pray.

C **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN 568 *If Your Beloved Son, O God*

1 If Your beloved Son, O God, Had not to earth descended
And in our mortal flesh and blood Had not sin's power ended,
Then this poor, wretch-ed soul of mine In hell eternally would pine
Because of my transgression.

2 But now I find sweet peace and rest; Despair no more reigns o'er me.
No more am I by sin oppressed, For Christ has borne sin for me.
Upon the cross for me He died That, reconciled, I might abide
With You, my God, forever.

3 I trust in Him with all my heart; Now all my sorrow ceases.
His words abiding peace impart; His blood from guilt releases.
Free grace through Him I now obtain; He washes me from ev'ry stain,
And pure I stand before Him.

4 All righteousness by works is vain; The Law brings condemnation.
True righteousness by faith I gain; Christ's work is my salvation.
His death, that perfect sacrifice, Has paid the all-sufficient price;
In Him my hope is anchored.

Δ5 My guilt, O Father, You have laid On Christ, Your Son, my Savior.
Lord Jesus, You my debt have paid And gained for me God's favor.
O Holy Spirit, Fount of grace, The good in me to You I trace;
In faith and hope preserve me.

SERVING: _____

Preaching: Rev. Jeff Caithamer

Organist: Keith Williams

Videographer: Lou Ann

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY – We remember the following people in our prayers: *for healing and recovery:* Karla, Shirley, Pastor Ehlers, Esther, Judy, Martin-son of Letty, Aidan, Whitney-wife of Ellie's grandson, Barbara-friend of the congregation, Ashlyn-infant relative of Joyce, Jan, John, Tom, Opal, Hendricks-grandson of Dan & Joanie, Jacob-great grandson of Bob & Joan, Maria, Brett-cousin of the Kindts', Merv, Jessica-granddaughter of Bob & Joan, Joan-mother of Bill, Judy-mother of Rochelle, Rebecca-daughter of Marvin & Esther, Roy-father of Anne, Dan-brother of Bonnie, Todd; *for successful treatments:* Luke, Kendra (school parent), Cari (school parent), Nicole (school parent), Earl, Jayne, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy; *for our college students:* Isabelle, Erin, Sophia; *for those in the military:* Roberto, Adam, Joshua, Nick, Taylor, Andy, Brndon, Ben, Allyson, Zachary; *for our homebound:* Gaylord, Lavina.

For requests for the prayer chain or to be added to the chain:

<http://stjohnmedia.org/church/PrayerList.html>

Lifelight is back - Join us for *Selected Psalms*, a 9-week Bible study. You can join us Wednesday evenings at 5:45, Thursday mornings at 9:00, or Thursday evenings at 6:30. Social distancing will be practiced. Classes start January 20 and 21. To sign up, look for our table in the overflow or contact Neil, Matt, Eunice or Donna.

Part-time Janitorial Position Opening – Evenings, able to work independently, lift up to 50 pounds – please text or email Chip Garth. Info in printed bulletin

Nursery Remodel – Be sure to stop by the Julia Eakin Nursery to see the progress of the remodel. Also, check out the bulletin board next to the Nursery (in the hallway) to track the progress on the chart.

OUR WEEK AHEAD

Today *Baptism of our Lord*; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion

Monday 5:30 Finance Board

Tuesday 6:00 Elders

Wednesday 8:20 Chapel, 10:00 Adult Bible Class; 5:45 Midweek School, 7:15 Holy Communion

Thursday 7:00 Men’s Prayer Breakfast; 6:30 Men’s Choir

Sunday *2nd Sunday after Epiphany*; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion

Altar Flower Chart – The 2021 Flower Chart is now available for reservations for altar flowers. Please leave your phone number and you will be telephoned before the Sunday you signed up for to find out what flowers you would like and if you would like them in memory or in honor of something or someone.

2021 Contribution Envelopes are in the overflow. Some envelope numbers were changed so please throw away all old envelopes. Please stop by and pick up your new envelopes for 2021. If you do not see your envelopes, please contact the church office.

Sign Up for Church Services: Please contact the church office 359-1123 between the hours of 10am and 4pm, Monday through Friday, to sign up for Sunday’s services. Or you can email pmartin - at - stjoh-lcms.org. You can also sign up anytime by emailing Pastor (revcaithamer - at - stjoh-lcms.org) Thank you to those who sign up ahead of time for church services. It does make the task of preparing for the Lord’s Supper easier and in allowing enough space for everyone in the sanctuary. We do know that circumstances do not always allow for everyone to sign up ahead of time, so we will still welcome those who may come otherwise unannounced.

Email Addresses – Pastor Caithamer has compiled a list of members’ email addresses to communicate with the congregation. If you are not receiving these email communications, please call the church office with your email address so we can add you to the list.

Call Committee – A committee has been formed to begin the process of calling a teacher for the 4th/5th grade class. Members of the committee are as follows: Pastor Caithamer, Tim Gabbert, Maxine, Leah, Faith, Susah and Marlene. They are asking the congregations to submit names of possible candidates for them to consider. Please contact the school office 359-1714.

Experts Guests, Expansive Topics, Extolling Christ - Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week’s teachings include: The Sacred Names of God, The Epiphany Hymn “The Only Son from Heaven,” Critical Theory, Responding to the Argument Against Miracles and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

LEARN BY HEART
THE FAMILY ALTAR

The families of St. John are encouraged to learn these words from the Small Catechism by heart this week:

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

What is Baptism? Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God’s command and combined with God’s word.

Which is that word of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” [Matt. 28:19]

What benefits does Baptism give? It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” [Mark 16:16]

Bible Passage: And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.
Romans 8:28

Hymn 367 *Angels from the Realms of Glory* (sts. 3-5)

Psalm 62:5-12

Bible Readings for the Week:

Noah and the Flood – Genesis 6:5, 13, 17-19; 7:11-12, 16-17; 21-23; 9:1

The Red Sea – Exodus 13:17-14:31

Israel Crosses the Jordan – Joshua 1:1-2, 10-11; 3:1-17